



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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May 19, 2015


The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

41 May 19, 2015


PATRICK O'GAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

HILLCREST DRIVE ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY ECOLOGY SCHOOLYARD PROJECT (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

To adopt a resolution that will serve to transfer a State grant to fund the development and construction of a smart gardening center at the Hillcrest Drive Elementary School and to accept the grant funds.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Adopt the enclosed resolution to authorize application for an Urban Greening Program Grant from the California Strategic Growth Council to fund the Hillcrest Drive Elementary Community Ecology Schoolyard Project in the City of Los Angeles.
3. Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to accept up to \$976,031 in Urban Greening Program Grant funding to be awarded from the Strategic Growth Council for the project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this action is to approve an application for and acceptance of grant funding for the Hillcrest Drive Elementary Community Ecology Schoolyard Project. The project will support urban greening efforts under the County's Smart Gardening Program to provide sustainable improvements

and services to an underserved community.

The project consists of constructing a learning center, garden, outdoor amphitheater, and related improvements at Hillcrest Elementary School in the City of Los Angeles near Baldwin Hills. The grant was originally awarded to the proposer, Los Angeles Conservation Corps, which was unable to complete the project because financial constraints prevented it from meeting the project requirements imposed by Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).

The Department of Public Works was asked to take over the project by the grantor, the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC), a State agency. Public Works is negotiating with the SGC on a final scope of work and costs to be covered by the grant, which will not exceed the total grant amount of \$976,031. The grant funding will cover the administration, design, and construction costs associated with this project. The SGC requires that the Board adopt a Resolution, to serve as the application, and transfer of the grant to Public Works.

The project serves a disadvantaged area and will assist the County in complying with the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) and contribute to the efforts in addressing climate change, consistent with the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32). The project is also consistent with the County's Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future adopted by the Board in October 2014.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Community Support and Responsiveness (Goal 2), including Strategic Initiative 4 to promote Healthy Neighborhoods Projects and Strategic Initiative 5 to promote Environmentally Sustainable Practices. The proposed project supports these goals by providing needed facilities and services that benefit the community and environment.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund. Funding for design and construction will be sought in the annual Solid Waste Management Fund budget process. The grant will reimburse the cost after completion and maintenance will be the responsibility of the LAUSD.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On May 31, 2011, the Board authorized the Director of Public Works or her designee to accept grants up to \$500,000. Since this grant will be over \$500,000, Public Works is seeking approval from the Board to apply for and accept the grant.

County Counsel has approved the enclosed resolution as to form. All agreements with LAUSD required to carry out the project will be approved by County Counsel as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act. The project, which includes installation of decomposed-granite walking paths, modifications to irrigation system, planting trees, minor outdoor structures, and landscaping improvements, is within a class of projects that has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the

criteria set forth in Sections 15301 (c) and (d), 15303, and 15304 of the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines. The project involves minor alteration of existing public school facilities with negligible or no expansion of use. In addition, there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the project records.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no impact on current services.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter and the original resolution to the Department of Public Works, Environmental Programs Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gail Farber". The script is cursive and fluid.

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:PP:ak

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rochelle Goff)
County Counsel
Executive Office

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
TO RECEIVE A STATE URBAN GREENING GRANT
FOR THE HILLCREST DRIVE ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY
ECOLOGY SCHOOLYARD PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the State of California offers Urban Greening Program grants under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), to support environmental projects for the benefit of jurisdictions within the State; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Growth Council (Council) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of these grants; and

WHEREAS, the Council established procedures governing the application and grant management process for the grants; and requires a resolution from a jurisdiction authorizing the application for the grant and execution of grant-related documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

1. Approves the filing of an Urban Greening Grant application with the Council for the Hillcrest Drive Elementary Community Ecology Schoolyard Project (Project) by the Department of Public Works (Public Works); and
2. Certifies that Public Works understands the assurances and certification in the application, and
3. Certifies that Public Works or the site owner Los Angeles Unified School District will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project consistent with the land tenure requirements, or will secure the resources to do so; and
4. Certifies that Public Works will comply with the provisions of Section 1771.5 of the State Labor Code regarding payment of prevailing wages on Projects awarded Proposition 84 Funds; and
5. If applicable, certifies that the Project will comply with any laws and regulations including, but not limited to, legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled access laws, environmental laws and, that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable permits will have been obtained; and

6. Certifies that Public Works will work towards the Governor's State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety as included in Government Code Section 65041.1; and
7. Authorizes and empowers the Director of Public Works, or her designee, including the Assistant Deputy Director and Assistant Division Engineer, as agents to execute all necessary applications, agreements, reports, amendments, and payment requests thereto for the purpose of securing the grant from the Council.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted on the 19th day of May, 2015, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio of the governing body of all other special assessments and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

PATRICK OGAWA
Acting Executive Officer of the
Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By Carla Little
Deputy



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARK J. SALADINO
County Counsel

By Julia Wilson
Deputy